

Rymer, Edwina

From: Dellinger, Philip
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 12:19 PM
To: Honker, William;Garcia, David;Brown, James;R6 6WQ-SG;Lawrence, Rob;Gillespie, David;Hernandez, Jessica
Cc: Gray, David;Mayer, Rebecca
Subject: FW: Distribution of UIC National Technical Workgroup report - Minimizing and Managing Potential Impacts of Injection-Induced Seismicity from Class II Disposal Wells: Practical Approaches
Attachments: NTW Report.pdf

From: Bergman, Ronald
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 11:13 AM
To: Contreras, Peter; Albright, David; Minter, Douglas; Mindrup, Mary; Hildebrandt, Kurt; Dellinger, Philip; Jann, Stephen; Allenbach, Becky; McManus, Fred; Johnson, KarenD; Kraft, Nicole; Downing, Jane; Springborg, Denise
Cc: Mike Paque; mike.smith@iogcc.state.ok.us
Subject: Distribution of UIC National Technical Workgroup report - Minimizing and Managing Potential Impacts of Injection-Induced Seismicity from Class II Disposal Wells: Practical Approaches

Dear UIC Managers,

The Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water is pleased to provide the final product of the UIC National Technical Workgroup (NTW) entitled, *Minimizing and Managing Potential Impacts of Injection-Induced Seismicity from Class II Disposal Wells: Practical Approaches*. The report will be a valuable tool for UIC program managers addressing induced seismicity. Thank you to all the state and EPA staff who worked on this report.

The NTW was formed in 1995 to discuss technical issues related to the UIC Program and is comprised of staff from each EPA Regional Office, OGWDW, and select states authorized to implement the UIC program. The NTW provides a forum whereby technical issues relating specifically to the UIC Program can be discussed, reviewed and resolved by UIC program experts. The NTW provides an avenue for open dialogue, communication, and coordination between EPA and State representatives concerning technical matters related to underground injection as defined in the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 USC 6A, Part C). States with extensive programmatic experience in addressing induced seismicity participated in the development of this report, including Ohio, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, West Virginia, and Arkansas. A number of these states have developed state regulations or guidelines addressing induced seismicity and each of the states contributed valuable experience and expertise to this effort.

The NTW developed the attached report using the existing Class II regulatory framework to recommend strategies for managing and minimizing the potential for significant injection-induced seismic events. The approaches in the report are non-regulatory in nature, and are within the Class II Director's discretion to apply. The report recommends practical steps to reduce the potential for induced seismicity in the areas of site assessment, well operation, monitoring, and management. It can help UIC managers evaluate the potential for induced seismicity in a planned injection operation, and describes permit conditions that can be added to manage this potential, so that oil and gas wastewater disposal operations can continue with adequate environmental safeguards.

We are providing a copy of this report to you so you may distribute it to EPA and state UIC program personnel in your region and encourage UIC regulators to utilize the available tools and lessons learned to reduce the potential for

injection-induced seismic events. The report is available on EPA's UIC website:

<http://www.epa.gov/r5water/uic/techdocs.htm>. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Bates at (202) 564-6165.

Thank you

Ron Bergman

Acting Director, Drinking Water Protection Division

Office of Water, USEPA